Neyveli Power Units

2384. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the generation at the Neyveli power units had stopped on November 19, 1991;

(b) whether the stoppage was due to sabotage;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S B. NYAMAGOUDA) (a) to (c). On 14th and 15th November, 1991 Mine II of Neyveli Lignite Corporation got flooded on account of cyclone followed by heavy rain. As a result, Thermal Power Station II linked to Mine II for raw lignite fuel, also stopped generation of power w.e.f. 15-11.1991. There is not reasons to suspect any sabotage.

(d) NLC were instructed to take all possible steps to restore the production of lignite from the Second Mine and to ensure generation of power from the Second TPS as early as possible. Besides, the NLC Ltd. were instructed to draw up short term action plans for strengthening the surface drainage arrangements and were advised to interact with the State Government Authorities for long term measures.

Prompt actions were taken by the NLC management to dewater the Mine II. The dewatering of flood was satisfactorily achieved by the first week of January, 1992. Parallel action was taken by the management for recommissioning the overburden production systems after retrieving the equipment. The overburden removal restarted from 19th November, 1991 and stabilised gradually. The lignite production was recommenced on 2nd January, 1992 after strenuous cleaning operation of flood deposit silt. All the submerged mining and electrical equipments were successfully restored and recommissioned after carrying out necessary maintenance works. The first units TPS II recommenced generation in last week of December, 1991 and the fourth unit in the third week of January, 1992.

Availability of Coal in Arani in Tamil Nadu

2385. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to find out coal availability in Aram and Tiruvanamalai in Tamilnadu, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India has not carried out any regional exploration of Coal in Arani and Tiruvanamalai of Tamil Nadu as the areas do not hold any promise for occurrence of Coal. G.S.I. do not have any proposal to explore the areas.

[*Translation*]

Mineral based units in Uttar Pradesh

2386. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have identified any suitable locations in Uttar Pradesh for setting up of mineral based industries;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed locations; and

(c) the steps proposed to set up such industries there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.